

### Projected Population

The purpose of projecting an area's future population is to provide an indicator which will enable us to estimate future demands that will be placed on an area. The past population trends must be considered in order to project what the future population may be. Like past trends, future trends are also subjected to natural change, migration, and annexation. The credibility of these forecasts are therefore subjected to unpredictable variables which means that the population projection should be utilized as an indication rather than as an absolute measure of the future population. The projected population for Vance County, Vance County townships, and Region K until the year 2000 is provided in Table 3.

An examination of these population projections reveals a growth pattern in Region K and Vance County which is very similar to past growth trends. Henderson Township should continue to gain in population while the more rural townships will maintain or perhaps lose population. Henderson Township is expected to have a 30 percent increase in population between 1970 and 2000 which is the greatest projected increase in percentage and in absolute numbers throughout Vance County. The continued gain in population projected for the Henderson Township will largely result from the expected employment opportunities provided by expected industrial, commercial, and service expansion.